

Claims

1. An oro-nasal mask comprising a body shaped to fit around and enclose a wearer's nose and mouth, the mask having sealing means around the periphery thereof to make a seal with the wearer's face when fitted thereto, wherein the sealing means
5 comprises a resilient member provided around the periphery of the body which, in use, locates the mask on the wearer's face so that the mask makes a seal therewith and a flexible sealing membrane overlying said resilient member and operable independently thereof to reinforce said seal when pressurised breathable gas is supplied to an interior of the mask

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2. The mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the flexible membrane includes a skirt which contacts the wearer's face.

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3. The mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the body is moulded with an annular inwardly directed web around the periphery thereof which provides said resilient member which is pressed against the wearer's face around the wearer's nose and chin when the mask is fitted thereto.

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4. The mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the flexible membrane is attached to the resilient member at a location axially spaced away from the part of the resilient member which is pressed against the wearer's face.

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5. The mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the resilient member is curved in cross section with a rolled tapered peripheral edge.

6. The mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the flexible membrane is secured to the resilient member.

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7. The mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the body is moulded from a natural or synthetic rubber material.

8. The mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the flexible membrane is moulded from a natural or synthetic rubber material.

9. The mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the flexible membrane is shaped so that when a pressurised breathable gas is supplied to the interior of the mask when said mask is fitted to a wearer's face, the membrane can only be positioned into sealing engagement with the wearer's face to improve and reinforce the seal therewith as the pressure of the breathable gas increases.

10. The mask as claimed in claim 9 wherein the portion of the resilient member which is pressed against the wearer's face is located behind the flexible membrane.

11. The mask as claimed in claim 9 wherein the portion of the flexible membrane extending over the portion of the resilient member which is pressed against the wearer's face and the peripheral edge region of the flexible membrane are both pressed into contact with the wearer's face when a pressurised gas is supplied to the interior of the mask.

12. The mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the body is made from a resilient material.

13. The mask as claimed in claim 12 wherein the body and the resilient member are moulded from a same material.

14. The mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein the body is a discrete member to which the sealing means is attached.

15. The mask as claimed in claim 14 wherein the body is made from a rigid material.

16. The mask as claimed in claim 1 which, in use, is capable of receiving a high pressure breathable gas while still maintaining an effective seal with the wearer's face.